## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

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1. (Original) A method of providing an active annotation mechanism for use in association with a document of a document management system, where the document has an annotation added, the method comprising:

electronically scanning the document;
detecting the annotation added to the scanned document;
determining an action to be undertaken with reference to the
document, based on the annotation; and
performing the action required by the annotation.

- 2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the active annotation mechanism is configured to be aware of a nature of the annotation content and applications whose behavior needs to be coordinated to perform the action required by the annotation.
- 3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked when the document is stored.
- 4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked at predetermined time intervals.
- 5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation carries at least one of an activity to be carried out and a parameter that configures that activity.
- 6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is stored with the document.
- 7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is stored separate from the document.
- 8. (Original) The method according to claim 1wherein the active annotation mechanism operates over at least plain text, files, program source code and presentations.
- 9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as <u>one of</u> an in-line annotation and an out-of-band annotation.
- 10. (Original) A method of providing an active annotation mechanism for use with a document in a document management system capable of dynamically changing a system configuration of the document comprising the steps of:

at cont generating executable code to detect update data added to the document, wherein the update data are annotations which require an action to be undertaken;

assigning the executable code to an active property for dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration which achieves the desired operation;

attaching the active property to the document, the property identifying a desired operation to be undertaken in connection with the document;

assigning a triggering event to the property such that the property invokes the executable code in response to the triggering event; and

upon an occurrence of the triggering event, invoking the executable code of the property and dynamically changing the system configuration of the document to include the desired configuration.

- 11. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the active annotation mechanism is configured to be aware of a nature of the of the annotation content and applications whose behavior needs to be coordinated to perform the action required by the annotation.
- 12. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked when the document is stored.
- 13. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the active annotation mechanism is invoked at predetermined time intervals.
- 14. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation carries at least one of an activity to be carried out and a parameter that configures that activity.
- 15. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation is stored with the document.
- 16. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation is stored separate from the document.
- 17. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the active annotation mechanism operates over at least plain text, files, program source code and presentations.
- 18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as <u>one of an in-line annotation and an out-of-band annotation.</u>

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19. (Original) An active annotation mechanism for use in association with a document of a document management system, where the document has had an annotation added, comprising:

a scanning mechanism to electronically scan the document;
a detector to detect the annotation added to the scanned document;
a detector to determine the contents of the annotation, and an action to
be undertaken with reference to the document, based on the annotation; and
a performance mechanism to perform the action required by the
annotation.

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20. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein the annotation is placed on the document at least as <u>one of</u> an in-line annotation and <u>an out-of-band annotation</u>.